

*Robert J. Cook*  
EAST HARTFORD VETERANS COMMISSION

2020 MAR 27 A 8:41

EAST HARTFORD TOWN HALL

TOWN CLERK  
EAST HARTFORD

WELLING CONFERENCE ROOM

March 11, 2020

PRESENT: Chair John Cook, Vincent Parys, Tia Woods, Timothy Siggia, Richard Bates, and James Shelmerdine

ABSENT: Melodie Wilson

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Cook called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m. He announced the exit locations in accordance with CT General Statutes §29-381, after which the commission was led in the pledge of allegiance and moment of silence for our fallen service members.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA: None

ROLL CALL: as indicated above.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: by James Shelmerdine  
Seconded by Vincent Parys  
To approve  
Motion carried: 6/0

COMMUNICATIONS AND INVOICES: the Mayor's office would like us to develop a list of veterans in town. The chairman will write up a press release inviting town veterans to contact him with their information.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Cards for flag placement volunteers. Discussion has been delayed till April meeting.
2. Plans for 2020 – commissioners were asked to continue thinking of additional plans for 2020
  - 1) Memorial Day – May 25 – Continue with what we did for 2019
    - a) Flag placements
      - i) Morning service with wreath placement.
      - ii) We need to order flags for placement. A motion was made to authorize Commissioner Parys to order up to 58 gross of memorial flags as needed for both the Memorial Day and Veterans Day placements.

MOTION: by James Shelmerdine  
Seconded by Tia Woods  
To approve  
Motion carried: 6/0

- iii) Tia Woods has made arrangements with a minister to assist in our services.

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b) Roll call of the fallen at Bicentennial Park.

3) New Business

a) Memorial Day – May 25<sup>th</sup>

- 1) Event at EHHS with music – Commissioner Cook will check on the availability of the Sweet Adelines.
- 2) Look into providing transportation for town seniors to attend. Commission Cook will pursue the feasibility of getting transportation and to see if the East Hartford Housing Authority will allow us to post advertisements in their senior housing. He will also check with the Town Senior Center. Commissioner Bates will check with his sister, a graduate of West Point and a retired Colonel, to see if she would like to speak
- 3) We need to make arrangements with HS band leader for a portion of the program and to provide a bugler for the Roll Call of the Fallen on Sunday.

c) Flag Day – June 14<sup>th</sup> discussion has been postponed.

d) POW/MIA Day – September 18<sup>th</sup> Commissioner Cook will check with Mayors office to ensure that our POW/MIA flags are flown.

e) Veterans Day – November 11<sup>th</sup>

(i) Flag placements

(ii) Morning service with wreath placement

f) Chairman John Cook will research the date when volunteers are asked to clean Veteran's headstones at National Cemeteries to see if we might be able to do the same.

g) Flag retirement boxes assignments

- (1) Commissioner Woods March
- (2) Commissioner Payrs June
- (3) Commissioner Bates July
- (4) Commissioner Woods September
- (5) Commissioner Cook October
- (6) Commissioner Shelmerdine November.

#### ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

By Vinnie Parys

Seconded by Timothy Siggia

Motion to adjourn

Motion carried 6/0 at 8:40 PM

Submitted by:

Chairman John Cook